

REMARKS

The amendments to the claims address formal matters and do not introduce new matter.

The amendments insert the phrase "or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof" into many of the dependent claims. This phrase is used throughout the application and is used in parent claim 1. Other amendments substitute "the" for "a" or "an" when the claim relies on an earlier claim for antecedent basis. New Claims 40-55 are directed to specific compounds, which are examples in the application. The definition of C* that has been inserted into Claims 18 and 22 is supported on page 13, lines 4-6.

The status of the claims after this Amendment is as follows:

- Claims 1, 17, and 37 are original.
- Claim 28 is canceled.
- Claims 2-16, 18-27, 29-36, 38, and 39 are currently amended.
- Claims 40-55 are new.

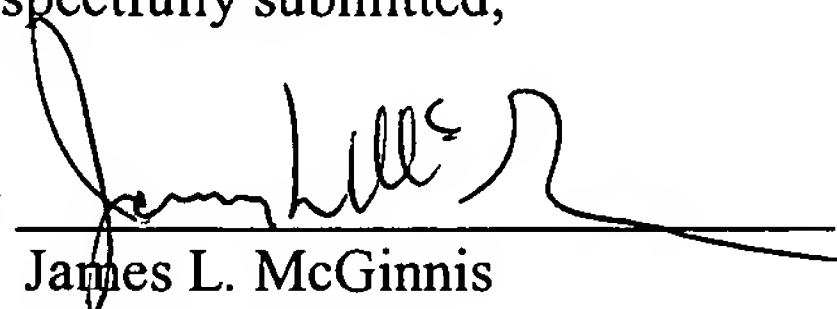
The claims currently under examination are claims 1-27 and 29-55.

A fee sheet is enclosed to cover the extra fees for the 15 additional dependent claims.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are allowable. A favorable response from the Examiner is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By



James L. McGinnis
Reg. No. 34,387
Attorney for Applicants

MERCK & CO., Inc.
P.O. Box 2000
Rahway, New Jersey 07065-0907
(732) 594-0641

Date: April 24, 2006